

# Craters of the Moon National Monument



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## News Release

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### **DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR CRATERS OF THE MOON RELEASED FOR PUBLIC REVIEW**

Shoshone, ID – The National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management today released the Draft Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve. The release of the draft starts the clock on a 90-day public comment period that will end on July 28, 2004.

According to Monument Superintendent Jim Morris, a team of specialists from the two agencies prepared the Draft Plan, which when final will guide management of the Monument for the next 15 to 20 years.

“The Monument grew from 54,000 acres to more than 750,000 acres with the signing of Presidential Proclamation 7373 in November 2000. We involved the public and other agencies early on to help identify issues and concerns that need to be considered as a new management strategy is developed,” Morris said. “After months of collaboration and meaningful public input, the Draft Plan details four alternative management strategies. We are now asking for additional input and comment.”

The four alternatives consider varying degrees of visitor use and public safety: development, transportation and access: and management of cultural and natural resources. The Craters of the Moon Planning Team will consider comments on the alternatives during the process of determining a final plan of action.

Copies of the document were mailed to those who previously participated in the planning process and will also be available at public libraries in American Falls, Arco, Burley, Carey, Hailey, Idaho Falls, Rupert, Shoshone and Twin Falls. Additional copies are available upon request, either in hardbound copy, electronic compact disk, or on-line at:

[www.id.blm.gov/planning/index.htm](http://www.id.blm.gov/planning/index.htm)

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Release Date: April 21, 2004

Media Contact: Ted Stout, NPS, 208-527-3257 or Barbara Bassler, BLM, 208-732-7225

The agencies are especially interested in comments that address possible deficiencies in analysis, information that would have a bearing on the analysis, and needs for clarification. Informational Open House meetings are scheduled from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. as follows:

Arco	Tuesday, May 4	Arco Business Development Center 159 North Idaho
American Falls	Thursday, May 6	City Hall 550 North Oregon Trail
Rupert	Thursday, May 13	City Hall 624 F Street
Carey	Tuesday, May 18	Carey High School Multipurpose Room

Additional public meetings or presentations may be requested by contacting Barbara Bassler at 208-732-7200. Comments should be sent to the Craters of the Moon Planning Team, Shoshone BLM Field Office, 400 West F Street, Shoshone, ID, 83352, or via e-mail to: [ID\\_Craters\\_Plan@blm.gov](mailto:ID_Craters_Plan@blm.gov).

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